

2012 Consumer Confidence Report

Mount Toro Ranchos MWS

May 6, 2013

We test the drinking water quality for many constituents as required by state and federal regulations. This report shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 – December 31, 2012.

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Type of water source: The Mount Toro Ranchos water system is located in Central Monterey County and serves the Mount Toro Ranchos Subdivision. The drinking water source for the Mount Toro Ranchos MWS is two wells one of which is a back-up well. The reported results are for the primary Well #2 as Well #1 was not used during this reporting period.

Drinking Water Source Assessment: A source water assessment was conducted for the Well 02 of the Mount Toro Ranchos Mutual water system in August 2002. The source is considered most vulnerable to the following activities not associated with any detected contaminants: Grazing, Septic systems – low density. The system is treating for Iron and Manganese with Ozone and is also chlorination at the well. A copy of the complete report may be viewed at Monterey County Health Department, 1270 Natividad Rd., Room 109, Salinas, California.

For more information, contact: MCSI Water Systems Management Phone: (831) 659-5360 Fax: (831) 659-3166

TERMS USED IN THIS REPORT

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. Primary MCLs are set as close to the PHGs (or MCLGs) as is economically and technologically feasible. Secondary MCLs are set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).

Public Health Goal (PHG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. PHGs are set by the California Environmental Protection Agency.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

Primary Drinking Water Standards (PDWS): MCLs and MRDLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements.

Secondary Drinking Water Standards (SDWS): MCLs for contaminants that affect taste, odor, or appearance of the drinking water. Contaminants with SDWSs do not affect the health at the MCL levels.

Treatment Technique (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Regulatory Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

Variances and Exemptions: Department permission to exceed an MCL or not comply with a treatment technique under certain conditions.

ND: not detectable at testing limit

ppm: parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L)

ppb: parts per billion or micrograms per liter (ug/L)

ppt: parts per trillion or nanograms per liter (ng/L)

ppq: parts per quadrillion or picogram per liter (pg/L)

pCi/L: picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)

The sources of drinking water (both tap and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- *Microbial contaminants*, such as viruses and bacteria that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- *Inorganic contaminants*, such as salts and metals, that can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- *Pesticides and herbicides* that may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- *Organic chemical contaminants*, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals that are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, agricultural application, and septic systems.
- *Radioactive contaminants*, that can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and California Department of Public Health (Department) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Department regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, are more than one year old.

Water Quality Data Tables

The tables below list all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the most recent sampling for the constituent. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in these tables are from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The Department allows us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently.

SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF COLIFORM BACTERIA					
Microbiological Contaminant(s)	Highest # Detected in a Month	# Of Months in Violation	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
Total Coliform	5	1	No more than 1 positive monthly sample	0	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform/E Coli	0	0	A routine sample and a repeat sample are total coliform positive and one of these is also fecal coliform or E. coli positive.	0	Human & animal fecal waste

SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING LEAD AND COPPER							
Contaminant(s) (units)	Number of Site Collected	PHG	AL	90 th Percentile Level Detected	# of Samples > AL	Sample Date	Typical Source
Copper (ppm)	5	0.3	1.3	0.616	0	9/2010	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (ppb)	5	0.2	15	9	0	9/2010	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF RADIOACTIVITY						
Contaminant(s) (units)	PHG/ (MCLG)	AL	Level Detected Avg.	Range	Sample Date	Typical Source
Gross Alpha Activity	(0)	15	5.03	3.98-6.08	2009	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 228	0.019	5	0.102	ND-0.204	2008	Erosion of natural deposits

DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD					
Contaminant(s) (units)	PHG/ (MCLG)	MCL	Level Detected	Sample Date	Typical Source
Arsenic (ppb)	0.004	10	2	12/2012	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppm)	2	1	0.115	12/2012	Discharges of oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chromium (ppb)	(100)	50	8	12/2012	Discharge from steel and pulp mills and chrome plating; erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride (ppm)	1	2	0.6	12/2012	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate (ppm)	45	45	ND	12/2012	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposit

DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A SECONDARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD						
Contaminant(s) (units)	PHG/ (MCLG)	MCL	Level Detected	Range	Sample Date	Typical Source
Chloride (ppm)	N/A	500	99		12/2012	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; sea water influence
Color (units)	N/A	15	150		12/2012	Naturally occurring organic materials
Copper (ppm)	N/A	1	0.006		12/2012	Internal corrosion of household plumbing, erosion of natural deposits, leaching from wood preservatives
Odor (units)	N/A	3	1		12/2012	Naturally occurring organic materials
Iron (ppb)	N/A	300	4038	3941-4136	2012	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Iron (ppb) post filtration	N/A	300	438	300-588	2012	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Manganese (ppb)	N/A	50	952.75	939-982	2012	Leaching from natural deposits
Manganese –post filtration	NA	50	94	63-117	2012	Leaching from natural deposits
Specific Conductivity	N/A	1600	1053	1070	12/2012	Substances that form natural deposits; sea water influence
Sulfate (ppm)	N/A	500	66		12/2012	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial waste
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	N/A	1000	657		12/2012	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Turbidity (NTU)	N/A	5	29**		12/2012	Soil runoff
Zinc (ppm)	N/A	5	23		12/2009	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; Industrial waste

** Turbidity in the distribution was ND – 0.20 in 2010

SAMPLE RESULTS FOR SODIUM AND HARDNESS				
Contaminant(s) (units)	MCL	Level Detected	Sample Date	Typical Source
Sodium (ppm)	N/A	87	12/2012	Generally found in ground and surface water
Hardness (ppm)	N/A	346	12/2012	Generally found in ground and surface water
pH (units)	N/A	7.5	12/2012	Generally found in ground and surface water

SAMPLE RESULTS SHOWING DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS					
Contaminant(s) (units)	PHG (MCLG)	MCL	Level Detected	Sample Date	Typical Source
Bromate (ppb)	0.1	10	ND – 1.9	2012	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)	N/A	80	24	9/2010	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	N/A	60	7.3	9/2010	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

Additional Information on Drinking Water

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Lead Statement for Community Water Systems: If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Mt. Toro Ranchos Water System is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in drinking water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Summary Information for Contaminants Exceeding an MCL, MRDL, AL, or Violation:

- *Total Coliform Bacteria* – Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this may be warning of potential problems.
- *Turbidity* has no health effects. However, high levels of turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites that can cause symptoms such as nausea, rashes, diarrhea, and associated headaches. The turbidity tested in the distribution system met the MCL standard.
- *Color, Iron, and Zinc* are Secondary Drinking Water Standard Contaminants and are set to protect you against unpleasant aesthetic effects such as color, taste, odor, and the staining of plumbing fixtures, and clothing while washing. This is not a health (Primary) constituent. Well #1 was tested for Iron in 2012. These results were not included because the water was not used during this reporting period.
- *Manganese* was over the notification level of 500 ug/l. The notification level for manganese is used to protect consumers from neurological effects. High levels of manganese in people have been shown to result in effects of the nervous system. The water system treats for iron and manganese. The water system performs field tests weekly. Well #1 was tested in 2012. These results were not included because the water was not used during this reporting period.

Summary Information for Fecal Indicator-Positive Ground Water Source Samples, Uncorrected Significant Deficiencies, or Violation of Ground Water TT

- The well source was testing during the month with the multiple total coliform positives. The source was free of E-coli.

System Improvements and Updates:

- The water system is in the process of finding options for repair and upgrades for the filtration system.